

**ARIZONA PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING BOARD
MINUTES OF THE RULE REVISION ADVISORY GROUP**

A public meeting of the Rules Revision Advisory Group was convened on July 11, 2007, at the Little America Hotel, located at 2515 E. Butler Avenue, Flagstaff, AZ.

Members Present:

Chairman Gerald Richard II, Phoenix Police Department
Sheriff John Armer, Gila County Sheriff's Office
Chief Tony Daykin, University of Arizona Police Department
Chief Robert DeVries, Kingman Police Department
Lisa Judge, Tucson Police Department

Staff in Attendance:

Tom Hammarstrom
Lyle Mann
Bob Forry
Lynn Larson
Hop Bui
Sandy Sierra
Rick Watling

Counsel for Board in Attendance:

Diana Stabler, Assistant Attorney General

Guest Roster:

John Harris, Sahuarita P.D.
Barb Harris, Marana P.D.
Gilbert Lara, San Luis P.D.
Sheriff Chris Vasquez, Pinal County S.O.
Chief Mike Hogan, Eagar P.D.
C.E. Fuller, Maricopa County Attorney's Office
Mike Minter, Pinal County S.O.
Bill Haign, Pinal County S.O.
Terry Altman, Pinal County S.O.
Mark Stribling, Maricopa County Attorney's Office
Ken Kimmel, Sierra Vista P.D.
Enrique Cantu, AZ Auto Theft Authority
Clinton Lee, Pinal County S.O.
Lynn Parkin, Avondale P.D.
Ken Fixel, Gilbert P.D.

Jack Lane, Arizona Department of Public Safety
Roger Vanderpool, Arizona Department of Public Safety
Adam Shepherd, Gila County S.O.
Bill Amato, Tempe P.D.
Jan Madeya, ACIP

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gerald Richard convened the meeting at 8:05 a.m.

II. UPDATE ON PREVIOUS RULE CHANGES

A. Juvenile Indiscretion

Deputy Director Mann reported on the juvenile indiscretion rule that has been in effect for a little over a year. This rule is designed to allow agency heads who wish to appoint a person whose conduct as a juvenile is now grounds for denial of certification to petition the Board to determine that the conduct constituted juvenile indiscretion. So far only five juvenile indiscretion petitions have been submitted to the Board.

B. Comprehensive Final Exam

This is the examination that is given to every officer before they graduate the academy, as well as waiver applicants (out of state officers).

Mr. Lynn Larson, Certification Testing Administrator for AZ POST reported on the Comprehensive Final Exam (CFE). The new CFE requirements were effective July 10, 2006. The CFE pilot testing process was used to revise and review the exam. If a recruit fails the exam at the academy, they have one day to remediate and return to retest. If they fail three times, they have to complete the academy again. The CFE is working exactly as it should, cutting down on test failures.

III. REPORT FROM MORRISON INSTITUTE – “Arizonan’s Trust in Their Police”

In September of 2006, the POST Board approved a contract with the Morrison Institute to conduct a study intended to identify the elements of public trust in Arizona law enforcement. Mr. Bill Hart and Dr. Richard Toon of the Morrison Institute presented their report to the Board.

This study was started approximately one year ago. The purpose of the study was to determine Arizonan's level of trust in their law enforcement. The results of the statewide opinion poll confirmed the Arizona public's general confidence in police. The results of this opinion poll will be posted on the AZ POST website and can also be viewed on the Morrison Institute's website.

IV. STEROIDS

Deputy Director Mann stated this item was placed on agenda at the request of Chief DeVries. The Committee was provided with two newsletter articles written by Assistant Attorney General Diana Stabler on the issue of steroids. One of the concerns is pre-employment steroid use and the minimum standards for hiring and the other concern is steroid use by serving officers.

Chief DeVries stated the reason he wanted this item placed on the agenda is because his agency has encountered a problem with the verbiage in the current rule dealing with illegal use of a dangerous drug or narcotic, namely steroids. He would like to see this verbiage changed.

Diana Stabler provided the Committee with a brief background of the POST rules for minimum standards regarding drug use. POST has seen an upturn in incumbent steroid use.

Commander Kim Humphrey from the Phoenix Police Department addressed the Committee. Phoenix P.D. has added steroids to random drug testing since last July. This has not been an easy matter; testing procedures are very complex and cumbersome. Other valley agencies are also experiencing problems with steroid use among its officers. Steroid use is an ongoing problem. He has asked POST to facilitate a meeting with all agencies who have concerns about this issue so they can meet and discuss what to do and how to work together on this. Phoenix P.D. has produced a prevention video on anabolic steroids and he has asked POST to assist in distribution of this video. Phoenix P.D. also plans to do a follow-up video that deals with the legality of this problem.

Chairman Gerald Richard directed staff to review the current standards as it addresses in-service staff as well as pre-employment and bring proposed rule revisions back to the Committee. He feels there is a sense of urgency to take care of this as soon as possible.

V. STATEWIDE CENTRALIZED TRAINING RECORDS SYSTEM

Director Hammarstrom stated a statewide centralized training records system could be a technical solution to records keeping. This concept

could change the burden of records keeping for agencies. POST rules require officers complete annual training and qualification and agencies must document that so POST staff can audit and ensure officers are in compliance. A centralized records system is a way to potentially change records keeping regarding peace officer training in AZ. POST could become the central repository for training documentation. This change would require an agency to document training and report this to the central repository. This change would also require a rule revision.

Deputy Director Mann stated within the POST training management section there is a desire to provide agency heads with realistic ongoing management data about the status of officer's training. Technology has improved to the point where an internet based system could be utilized so that all agencies could utilize the centralized system. This is a generalized concept that POST has talked about for many years. The technology is now available to be able to do this.

Chief Daykin stated he believes there is value to this. Agencies have mandatory training and self select training. The self select training is what agencies lose track of. The concept of managing the training is valuable. He asked if this would streamline the POST audit process?

Deputy Director Mann stated the POST audit would become automatic; a site visit would no longer be required to track this information. This would allow us to know with 100% accuracy as to which officers have not received their training, verses the 10% accuracy that is currently done. The only problems he sees would be getting all agencies to participate and setting an implementation date. Do we set this for a future date or pick a past date and move forward from there?

Director Hammarstrom stated this would shift from voluntary reporting to mandatory reporting. This would provide an additional and more effective service to customers. POST is introducing this concept to the Rules Committee to get its input on whether to move ahead or not.

Chairman Gerald Richard asked staff to move forward on this and report back to the Committee. He is looking forward to seeing what other agency heads have to say about this concept.

VI. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one wished to address the Committee during the call to the public.

VII. ADJOURN

Chairman Richard adjourned the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

Dated July 30, 2007.

Sandra L. Sierra, Recording Secretary